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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Some Important Happenings in the South

THAT MAY PLEASE OUR READERS

An Assortment of Newsworthy Events That Occurred in our Midst That Cannot Fail to Interest.

Glamis Station, 34 miles this side of Yuma, on the Southern Pacific line, has been made a ticket station, with Edward Hayes as ticket agent.

A special election has been called for December 17th at Santa Barbara to vote on the proposition to issue bonds in the sum of \$50,000 for a High School building, the bonds to run ten years.

Extensive preparations are now under way at San Diego for the laying of the corner stone of the new State Normal School on December 10th. An effort will be made to secure the presence of Governor Budd.

Pat Moriarty, who is under arrest at San Bernardino, charged with being implicated in the recent hold-up of the Santa Fe train near Daggett, appears to be in no way disturbed by his arrest as he says he can clearly establish his innocence.

An Arkansas editor, reading that a young lady kneads bread with her gloves on, says: "We need bread with our boots on; we need bread with our pants on, and if our subscribers in arrears don't pay up soon we shall need bread without anything on."

The character of the stories which come from the Alaskan gold fields seem to depend largely on the luck of the men from whom they come. The country is rich and promising to the man who is making money, but the very opposite to the other fellow.

After this year the veterans at the Santa Monica Soldiers' Home will not be furnished with axle grease—otherwise known as oleomargarine—with which to spread their bread. The contract for the next quarter will call for good California creamery butter.

Myra Flithian Andrews has brought suit for divorce against her millionaire husband, Clarence Andrews. Andrews is in England with the 8-year-old son, for whom there will be battle royal. Plaintiff declares that defendant has been guilty of misconduct at Santa Barbara, Cal., and New York.

McClune and Hurley were up before Forest Commissioner Cole at San Bernardino last week charged with the serious offense of having set out several fires on government land in that county. They were held on their own recognizance to answer to the United States District Court at Los Angeles.

Men who are in the business of holding up railway trains will please observe that the Coroner's jury in the case of Eisler, who was killed near Daggett, returned a verdict to the effect that he was killed by a shot fired by Express Messenger Blakely, "while acting in the proper discharge of his duty."

Ex-City Collector A. A. Ling was sentenced at Phoenix last week to five years in the territorial prison for embezzlement, to which he pleaded guilty. His shortage, which began about the time he took office, amounted to nearly \$5500. He was a leading Democratic politician, and had served as chairman of the County Central Committee.

The Territorial Supreme Court at Albuquerque has issued a writ of error in the case of Jose P. Ruiz, who was sentenced to hang by the judge of that district, December 2, for the murder of Pascual Obannon, an 11-year-old boy, last May. The writ is made returnable July 18, 1899, so Ruiz's neck is saved, at least until that time.

The returning board of the Southern California branch of the L. A. W. met at San Diego last week to canvass the votes of the recent election of officers. The count showed the following elected: Chief Consul, Dr. A. H. Palmer, Pasadena; Vice Consul, E. A. Woodward, San Diego; Secretary-treasurer, James D. Wildber, Tustin; representative, George R. Holbrook, Ontario.

Every little while a new trade is brought into action. The Riverside Enterprise says: "Frank McKern, who for several years past has done considerable work in the line of estimating crops of oranges, says he has secured the job of estimating several orchards this season and expects to be kept busy in the work." But nobody has succeeded in hiring out to estimate the season's rainfall.

The destruction by fire of the Baldwin hotel at San Francisco will be regretted by all who have visited, seen or heard of that famous hostelry, while the loss of life adds the somberness of death to the catastrophe. There were 800 people in the hotel when the fire broke out and the loss of life might have been much greater than it was.

The Baldwin was built and owned by "Lucky" Baldwin.

Ex-Collector Fisher of San Diego is quoted as authority for the statement that from five to eight hundred Chinese are smuggled across the Mexican line and come to San Diego every year on account of a lack of sufficient men to patrol the line. If the statement be true, it is high time for it to be pressed very forcibly upon the attention of the government at Washington.

The city of Santa Barbara is the beneficiary again of one of the numerous philanthropic women with which California is blessed. Miss A. S. C. Blake, who has already spent \$30,000 upon the manual training school at that place, has placed in that institution the nucleus of an art museum, and the deed is on record, by which the building, appliances and collection are to become the property of the city.

The so-called steam-curing process for ripening lemons is to be given a trial in Redlands. The fruit is placed in trays in air-tight room, in which the temperature is raised to 95 or 100 degrees and kept there for three days, a certain amount of moisture being admitted, as deemed necessary. The fruit is then dried by means of fans. If the process shall prove generally as successful as it is claimed to have been where tried, it will be of great value. It must as yet be regarded, however, as an experiment.

Incidental to the agreement between the Southern Pacific and Santa Fe railroads regarding traffic over the Tehachapi pass is a feature which will be of special interest to the people of Santa Barbara and others interested in the completion of the coast division of the Southern Pacific. It is stated, on the authority of the Southern Pacific officials, that the use of their Tehachapi line by the Santa Fe will hasten the closing of the gap between Surf and Elwood in order that a portion of the through traffic may be transferred to the new line.

A one-day Farmers' Institute will be held at Tropic December 5th. Beside able local speakers, Prof. Sprague, C. C. Chapman, H. W. Kruckeberg and Dr. Levi D. Johnson will present papers. The last institutes of the year will be held in Riverside county as follows: Elsinore, December 26th and 27th; San Jacinto, 28th and 29th, and Moreno 30th and 31st. Prof. Bioletti of the university will give valuable illustrated lectures, as will Prof. Culbertson. These institutes will surely be equal to the others that have been so richly enjoyed in the past.

Fruit picking is not generally included among the Klondyke industries, yet it seems that there is money to be made in that, sometimes. In a letter from Ralph Rogers, formerly of Los Angeles, now of Dawson, he states that he and his son can pick fifty pounds of cranberries a day and sell them for 75 cents a pound. This looks quite attractive from a distance, but it is quite probable that a person who picks fruit in California for 75 cents a day, and board, will be better off at the end of the year, both financially and physically, than would a man who occasionally works for the high prices quoted in the Klondyke.

Randsburg is undergoing a moral house-cleaning. The following note, signed by "Citizens of Randsburg," has been posted in public places: "All ex-convicts, maqueans, disreputable loafers without visible means of support, and bad characters are hereby ordered to leave Randsburg forthwith." It appears that the camp is overrun by disreputable characters who would stop at no crime, and who have no honest means of support. The citizens have at last determined to purge the camp of this element, and the foregoing notice is simply preliminary to decisive action that will be taken by the Citizens Committee if the warning be ignored. The people are in earnest.

On January 2d, 3d and 4th will occur in Redlands the second meeting of the Farmers Clubs Institute. This will be composed of delegates from the nearly forty clubs now organized and at work in Southern California. Redlands knows how to entertain, and this fact with the attraction of the magnificent Smiley Park, reduced railroad rates, on the certificate plan, and best of all, a rich program, that will be full of practical valuable matter, will make this an exceptional meeting. At the Los Angeles meeting a year ago, topics were assigned the several clubs, and their reports will make up the principal part of the program. Dr. Hilgard will be present and speak on "Soil Moisture, Root Penetration and Fertilization." The meeting last year was considered a great success. The one this year will be still better. Every club but two was then represented. It is hoped that all will be represented this year.

Nearly all of the bucks of the White River Utes and part of the Uintah Indians are off the reservation and many are in Colorado. They say if the government won't pay for the land purchased of them they will hunt on it as often as they can get there.

PACIFIC COAST NEWS

Important Information Gathered Around the Coast.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

A Summary of Late Events That Are Boiled Down to Salt our Busy Readers.

The Southern Pacific issued checks aggregating nearly \$900,000 as the first installment of its state, county and municipal taxes in California last week.

John W. Hall of San Francisco, who was injured by stepping into an open water box on the Southern Pacific track at Redding, has been awarded \$8500 damages.

Scarcity of water in the streams has made it difficult for the electric power plants at Sacramento to supply their customers. The recent rain, however, has probably averted danger.

Attorney-General Fitzgerald has begun suit in San Francisco against Wells, Fargo & Co. to compel the corporation to pay the one-cent war tax on each bill of lading, instead of collecting the amount from each shipper.

Dawson preparing for winter shows piles of logs in front of houses for fuel, with fortunes being made by parties bringing in glass and oil lamps. Butter sells at \$2 per pound, and the price of other products is doubled.

The Board of Regents of the University of California has bought a valuable piece of property in San Francisco at a cost of \$210,000. This is the last piece of realty owned by the Huntington-Hopkins Company, and was bought as an investment.

A number of prominent Filipinos are registered at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. They have come to the United States to present claims for damages on property alleged to have been destroyed by American troops during the recent war.

Amadeo Horace, a native of Chile, has been arrested in San Francisco. He has been traveling around the country under assumed names negotiating with all sorts of business concerns and contracting for battleships, immense quantities of wines and other commodities.

The torpedo boat Davis, constructed at the Wolff and Zwicker Iron Works of Portland, was given her official trial trip on the Columbia river last week. Not only did the Davis make her official trial of two hours successful, but she made an average speed of 23 1/2 knots per hour, a full knot in excess of requirements.

The highbinders show contempt for the proclamation of the Chinese Consul bidding them desist in their murderous feud. The Consul's proclamation has been torn from the bulletin board in front of the Consulate, and in its place a placard referring to the Consul in uncomplimentary terms was posted, but quickly removed by attaches of the consulate.

When occasionally some Chinaman in San Francisco kills another the papers of that city make a great noise about the "another highbinder war." But murders equally atrocious are committed by white men in San Francisco nearly every week, without attracting any particular attention. A great deal of bosh is written and published about the highbinders, asserts the San Jose Mercury.

A very patent fact is being brought out by all this dry weather scare says the Oakland Tribune, and that is that we must provide against such conditions in future by means of a more complete system of irrigation. Our opportunities in that line are so many and the dangers attending drought so severe that it indeed looks like criminal negligence to allow vast streams of water to go to waste that may later on be badly needed. The building of mountain dams for the storage of water is a work of necessity that should no longer be overlooked.

So far this state has not suffered greatly from the dry season of 1897-98. Exports from San Francisco by sea for ten months, to October 31, were worth \$29,173,000, a falling off from the previous year of only about \$5,000,000. Shipments of deciduous fruits were only a few hundred cars less this year than last. There will be some deficiency in prunes, raisins and other cured fruits, but the higher prices will more than compensate for smaller shipments. Southern California has sold the largest crop of citrus fruits by nearly 50 per cent ever sent out of the section, and prices have been fairly good. The nut crop will be larger than last year, and the crop is being sold at a higher average range of prices and with much greater dispatch.

Baldwin's property in San Francisco and Los Angeles, with the exception of a small part of the Santa Anita ranch,

is covered by a blanket mortgage, which calls for the payment of a debt of \$1,625,000, with interest at 6 1/2 per cent a year, except that money loaned on property in the city of Los Angeles to bear 8 per cent a year. Of the Santa Anita ranch, 2276 acres are included in the mortgage and parts of the Rancho San Francisco and the Merced ranch are also included in the list of securities, as well as all of Baldwin's holdings in the Santa Anita colony and the town of El Monte. About \$900,000 of the mortgage covers the Baldwin hotel property, and the opinion is entertained that the site alone is worth at least \$500,000 over the mortgage.

The Oakland Exposition has a novel exhibit in the form of a consignment of adulterated foods, sent to Oakland by the San Francisco Board of Health. The exhibit is said to contain "well-known brands of household supplies including maple syrup without any sugar in it, apple jelly made from starch, catsups in which poisonous acids were found, alleged olive oils that were made from worse than cotton seed, coffee that contained but little if any coffee, and condensed milk in which not a trace of butter fat could be found." Such an exhibit will not be without value, if it shall teach the people who see it to exercise caution, as it no doubt will, in the selection of food. There is some reason to believe that some of the cheap food sold in this city would, if investigation were made, be found entitled to a place in the exhibit.

A careful estimate of the loss by the Baldwin hotel fire places the total at \$1,500,000, on which at the outside there was not over \$150,000 insurance. The insurance, \$50,000, carried on the hotel, was ridiculously small. The reason for this lay in the high rate charged and the fact that the underwriters did not care to carry a large line on such a building built of wood, with no brick dividing walls, and but one outside wall of brick. The insurance on the stocks of goods in the burned stores and their fittings amounts to \$72,250. George A. Moss carried \$22,800, Hyman & Myers, \$30,500, Isaac Grant of the drug store, \$5000, J. J. Groom, \$3000, Moses A. Gunst Co., \$10,000; J. Edlin, \$3500 and smaller sums were carried by other tenants. The smoke and water damage in the adjoining building was \$20,000, so that \$150,000 will cover the insurance loss.

THE GOVERNMENT REVENUE.

Receipts From Various Sources Under the War Tariff.

The discussion as to the revenue-producing qualities of the present tariff laws lends special interest to a series of tables just issued by the treasury bureau of statistics, showing the receipts from various sources by months during a long term of years.

An examination of these figures shows that the customs receipts of the treasury department now amount to one-half of the ordinary expenditures of the government, which is about the usual proportion allotted to that branch of the revenue-producing service. The ordinary expenditures of the government, aside from those of the postoffice department, which is practically self-sustaining, are usually calculated at about \$1,000,000 per day, and averaged during the years 1894 to 1897 \$360,000,000 per annum, and at about the same ratio in 1898, omitting the Pacific railroad and extraordinary war expenditures.

The daily statement of receipts and expenditures issued by the treasury department shows that on November 17, the 140th day of the present fiscal year the customs receipts had, during these 140 days, amounted to \$74,340,429. Of this sum a little over \$1,000,000 was from the duty placed upon tea by the war revenue act, so that fully \$72,000,000 out of the \$73,340,429 received in these 140 days are the legitimate normal revenues from the rates levied by the customs laws enacted in July, 1897, or a little more than the promised rate of a half million dollars a day from customs under that act.

The receipts from customs during the past ten years have averaged \$15,199,100 per month. These ten years include the operations of four tariff laws and it is, therefore, interesting to compare the operations of the new law in its various stages with this general average during a ten years' term which includes the operations of four tariff acts.

As it was not expected that the new law would in its first few months operate normally in its production of customs revenue owing to the excessive importations just prior to its enactment, it is not improper to show, first, the average receipts during the first four months of its operation, included in the calendar year 1897, and also to consider separately the last four months of its operation dating from the beginning of the present fiscal year: Receipts from customs, monthly average—the year, 1897-8, \$15,199,000; August to December, 1897, \$3,277,000; January 1 to November 1, 1898, \$5,071,000; July 1 to November 1, 1898, \$15,933,000.

MINES AND MINING.

COPPER MINES.

The Minneapolis Tribune prints a report showing the profits made by copper companies, even when working low-grade ores. It says, speaking first of the Anaconda mine in Montana, that the ores average 4.26 per cent copper, 3.48 ounces silver, and 0.011 gold per ton. The average return to the ton of ore treated for the year ending June 30, 1898, was \$11.22. The company pays 10 per cent dividends on \$30,000,000 capital stock. Michigan copper ores in all the mines operating do not average 3 per cent metal per ton of rock. Arizona ores average according to government reports, 10 per cent in copper, and in most all of the copper mines now turning out bullion a good per cent of gold and silver is reported. As in the Queen at Bisbee and United Verde at Jerome, from which the owner, W. A. Clark of Helena, Mont., received \$4,000,000 in copper and \$1,000,000 in gold for 1897. In the Copper King of Arizona ores, at Solomon Springs, from \$20 to \$500 per ton in gold, silver and copper is now obtained. The South Bisbee Copper Company have ore in several claims averaging in copper, gold and lead from \$25 to \$80 per ton, showing that Arizona copper ores carry gold, silver and lead, and are clear ahead in value of Michigan and Montana ores. With the many new prospects developing and new mines about turning out bullion, in a few years Arizona may lead Montana and Michigan in output of copper. The following are among the principal copper mines in Arizona now producing bullion: United Verde at Jerome, the Queen and Copper King of Arizona at Bisbee, Arizona Copper Company at Clifton, Detroit Copper Company at Morenci, the Globe Company at Clifton, the Middlemarch Company in the Dragoons near Barrett.

Another big strike is reported made in the Trilby mine, one of the group belonging to the Yellow Aster Mining Company of Randsburg, Cal. It was made about 530 feet from the entrance to the great ledge, first encountered on the top of Olympus Mountain. This particular ledge milled an average of \$50 per ton on the surface, and is doing even better than that at 600 feet below. In the last strike about forty feet of ore is exposed, and returns made show that it will mill all the way through an average of \$30 per ton.

A Spokane dispatch reports the sale of the Lerol mine at Jossland, B. C., to the British-American corporation for \$4,000,000. This mine was sold about two months ago to the same corporation for \$3,000,000, but some of the prominent stockholders, headed by Senator Turner of Spokane, succeeded in preventing the consummation of the sale. It went to the courts where it remained up last week when a deal was made whereby the corporation succeeded in obtaining control of the stock, paying for it \$8 a share, which would establish the value of the property at 4,000,000.

The production of wolframite ores in Southern Arizona is becoming an industry of considerable importance. The mine is located in the Dragoon Mountain in Cochise county, and the first development was made but a few months ago. Speaking of them, the Arizona School of Mines at Tucson has received through Prof. Blake the first consignment of a carload, thirty tons of wolframite ore from the Dragoon Mountains, Cochise county, for concentration preparatory to shipment to Philadelphia. Several shipments of a few tons of hand-sorted ore have already been made, but the bulk of the production requires crushing and concentration to free it of the quartz impure. The milling process of the Arizona School of Mines is becoming recognized by many men in a substantial way, and that important branch of the university is fast becoming a leading department of the curriculum of the university.

The Los Angeles Mining Review makes a strong plea for the creation of the office of Mining Secretary, who shall be a member of the President's cabinet. In an article, advocating the creation of the office, it says: "We went over a century without a Secretary of Agriculture, although we had been, for the twenty years preceding his appointment, the greatest of all producing nations in the output of farming lands. It is of likely, however, that we are so wit much longer before the good sense of the nation will declare itself in favor of a mining department, which shall be something better than a mere subdivision of the 'omnibus' known as the Interior Department. We are a great producing people, and we want to produce more. We want more nickel told in the production of Harvayzed steel, and more manganese for harder steel for our railroads. Copper is already at twice the price it obtained when it touched the bedrock through the failure of the 'Comptoir d'Escompte' in 1889; and all through the increase at multiplication of copper in electric appliances."